



Press Release

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Five California Firms Awarded Right-of-Way Engineering and Surveying Contracts

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Supporting its goal to ensure small business participation and in putting Californians to work, the California High-Speed Rail Authority's (Authority) Board of Directors today approved right-of-way engineering and surveying contracts with five California firms. Four out of the five firms are certified small businesses, with two of those businesses located in the Central Valley.

"These contracts show a continued commitment to creating jobs and working with small businesses in the Central Valley," said Authority Small Business Advocate Robert Padilla. "The employees of these firms will bring vital engineering and surveying experience to the project and help support economic growth as they live, work and shop in the region."

Today's Board of Director's action allows Chief Executive Officer Jeff Morales to negotiate final terms and execute contracts with the following five firms:

- Chaudhary & Associates, Inc.
- Hernandez, Kroone & Associates Inc.
- Mark Thomas and Company, Inc.
- O'Dell Engineering
- Quad Knopf, Inc.

The terms negotiated with the five firms include the location of offices based in Fresno, Tulare or Kings County, and they also will adhere to the Authority's 30 percent small business participation goal. Each contract is worth up to \$3.2 million over four years.

Right-of-way engineering and survey work will include staking and marking parcels, drafting maps, developing legal property descriptions and identifying and relocating underground utilities. Firms will also be responsible for administration and project management, progress reports and project tracking systems. The procurement will cover support services for acquiring more than 1,000 parcels of real property from just south of Madera to north of Bakersfield.

"The right of way process is complex and the expertise of these contractors will be a great support," said Diana Gomez, the Authority's Central Valley Regional Director. "The Authority is committed to continuing to work with property owners, elected officials, stakeholders and the public throughout the right-of-way acquisition process."

The Authority is meeting and exceeding goals set out in an aggressive small business program which includes a 30 percent participation goal for small businesses competing for contracts with the Authority. The small business program also includes a 10 percent participation goal for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises and a 3 percent participation goal for Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises.

About California High-Speed Rail Authority

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) is responsible for planning, designing, building and operation of the first high-speed rail system in the nation. California high-speed rail will connect the mega-regions of the state, contribute to economic development and a cleaner environment, create jobs and preserve agricultural and protected lands. By 2029, the system will run from San Francisco to the Los Angeles basin in under three hours at speeds capable of over 200 miles per hour. The system will eventually extend to Sacramento and San Diego, totaling 800 miles with up to 24 stations. In addition, the Authority is working with regional partners to implement a statewide rail modernization plan that will invest billions of dollars in local and regional rail lines to meet the state's 21st century transportation needs. To learn more visit the Authority's website at <http://www.hsr.ca.gov> and join us on [facebook.com/CaliforniaHighSpeedRail](https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaHighSpeedRail) and follow us at twitter.com/cahsra

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